PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: MARIO WEIST ET AL.

ART UNIT:

SERIAL NO.:

EXAMINER:

FILED:

P.C.T. APPLICATION NO.: PCT/CH2003/000392

P.C.T. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: JUNE 17, 2003

EARLIEST PRIORITY CLAIM: JUNE 20, 2002

U.S. NATIONAL FEE PAID: DECEMBER 20, 2004

TITLE: A SELF-OPENER CLOSURE FOR COMPOSITE PACKAGINGS OR ..

FOR CONTAINER SPOUTS OR BOTTLE SPOUTS TO BE CLOSED

WITH FILM MATERIAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

> "Express Mail" mailing label number <u>ED 282855503 US</u> Date of Deposit <u>December 28, 2004</u>

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail - Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Hon. Commissioner for Patents, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Zerwin UC Edwin D. Schindler, Reg. No. 31,459

December 28, 2004

Date

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U.S. Patent No. Inventor Issue Date

5,482,176 M. Maietta et al. January 9, 1996

Document No. Country/P.C.T. Published/Issued

WO 95/05596 PCT/Int'l Bureau (WIPO) March 2, 1995

EP 1,088,764 Al European Patent Office April 4, 2001

WO 02/28728 Al PCT/Int'l Bureau (WIPO) April 11, 2002

A copy of each of the references is submitted herewith along with Form PTO-1449.

The enclosed references were cited in the International Search Report of Applicants' corresponding international application, No. PCT/CH2003/000392, filed under the provisions of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (a copy of the International Search Report being concurrently filed herewith), or otherwise known to Applicants.

The accompanying references relate generally to opening and closure devices, etc., generally known to the prior art.

These citations do not constitute an admission by Applicants that the references are relevant or material to the patentability of the claims.

Inasmuch as the present Information Disclosure Statement

is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action on the merits, no fee for its submission is submitted to be due.

Respectfully submitted,

MARIO WEIST ET AL.

Edwin D. Schindler

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December 28, 2004

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Modified) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		EXAMINER: SERIAL NO.: PCT/CH2003/000392			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Page 1 of 2) (37 CFR 1.98(b))		APPLICANT(s): Mario Weist <i>et al</i> .			
		FILING DATE: June 20, 2002	GROUP ART UNIT:		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE if appropriate
/LN/	AA	5,482,176	Jan. 9, 1996	M. Maietta <i>et al</i> .	220	277	
	AB						
	AC						
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EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		EXAMINER: SERIAL NO.: PCT/CH2003/00		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT(S):		
(Page 2 of 2) (37 CFR 1.98(b))		Mario Weist <i>et al</i> .		
		FILING DATE:	GROUP ART UNIT:	
		June 17, 2003		

U.S. PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATIONS

EXAMINER INITIAL		APPLICATION PUBLICATION NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	APPLICANT(S)	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE if appropriate
	BD						
	BE						
	BF			•			
	BG						

FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS

EXAMINER		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
INITIAL							YES	NO
/LN/	вн	WO 95/05996	March 2, 1995	PCT/Int'l Bureau (WIPO)			Eng.	
/LN/	ВІ	EP 1,088,764 A1	April 4, 2001	European Patent Office			Eng.	
/LN/	BJ	WO 02/28728 A1	April 11, 2002	PCT/Int'l Bureau (WIPO)			Eng.	
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EXAMINER	/Lien Ngo/	DATE CONSIDERED	03/11/2008

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